



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Oscar Chi-Lim AU et al.

Application No.: 09/512,378

Filed: February 25, 2000

For: ENHANCING AN IMAGE, SUCH AS
AN IMAGE HAVING BI-VALUED
PIXEL VALUES

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) Group Art Unit: 2624
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) Examiner: James A. Thompson
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) Confirmation No.: 7227
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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 15, 2005, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections of claims 2-9, 11, 12, 16 and 19. The withdrawal of the previous rejections of claims 1, 13-15, 17, 18 and 20-22 is noted with appreciation.

In their previous response traversing the rejection of claims 2-4, 16 and 19, Applicants pointed out that the coefficients used in the convolution processor of the *Murakami et al.* patent are predetermined, and therefore independent of the image data itself. In reply to this argument, the most recent Office Action states that the particular set of coefficients that are used for a particular target pixel "are selected based upon the pixel value itself,...since the set of coefficients to be used is selected based upon the local gradient of the target pixel (col. 7, lines 51-64 of *Murakami*)."¹ It is respectfully submitted that this statement is based upon a misinterpretation of the disclosure of the *Murakami* patent. In particular, the patent does not disclose that the set of coefficients to be used is *selected* on the basis of the local gradient of a target pixel in the image being processed. Rather, the disclosure at column 7, lines 51-64 points out that each of the three sets of coefficients have different

¹ Office Action dated December 15, 2005, page 2, paragraph 1.